PREESALL-WITH-HACKINSALL
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR YEAR 1904.

To the Preesall Urban District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the pleasure to present my FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT.

There were 44 births (27 males and 17 females), and 27 deaths (male and female) registered in your Sanitary District during the year 1904, as compared with 34 births and 19 deaths in 1903.

The total Acreage of the District is 2,962 Statute Acres.

The population, by Census of 1901, was 1,423; I have estimated it at 1,500 for the year, there being 314 houses, this allows an average of 4·77 persons to each house.

The birth-rate amounted to 29·3 per 1,000 inhabitants, and the gross death-rate to 18 per 1,000, as compared with-22·71 and 12·88 for the previous year.

The death-rate from Zymotic disease, at all ages, was ·66, as compared with ·67 for the previous year.

There was one violent death from drinking Carbolic Acid.

The death-rate under 1 year was 2·6 per 1,000 of the population, and the rate of death under 1 year to 1,000 births is 90·9, an increase on last year's rate.

The death-rate from Phthisis is ·6.

The death-rate from Disease of the Respiratory Organs, including Pneumonia, Pleurisy, and Bronchitis, is 1·3, as compared with 2·03 of previous year.

The Mortality from all causes, at subjoined ages, was as follows:—

At all Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 year and under 5.	5 years and under 15.	15 years and under 25.	25 years and under 65.	65 years and upwards.
27	4	1	—	—	9	13

Of the 13 over 65 years, the Ages were—

65, 67, 71, 74, 75, 76, 80, 84, 85, 86, 86, 87, and 88.

House accommodation is adequate and, generally speaking, fit for habitation, though some are badly ventilated. There are still a number of empty houses; all houses are under the supervision of the Surveyor and Nuisance Inspector.

During the month of May, Dr. Spencer Low, one of the Medical Inspectors of the Local Government Board, made a visit to this Sanitary District, and issued a very severe criticism in his Report on its Sanitary Administration and condition. Since this report, your Council have made some effort to improve certain matters; but I must again point out that they do not seem to recognize the dormant danger to the inhabitants and Visitors, which is present and may at any time become an active source of Epidemic Infectious Disease, arising from the want of Sewerage and Drainage.

I am pleased to report that your Council is using their utmost endeavour to obtain a Supply of water from the Fylde Water Board.

There were 19 cases of Infectious Disease notified, as shewn in the following table:

	Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	2	5
Scarlet fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	—	—	—	—	8
Enteric fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Total	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	4	1	1	2	5	19

There were eight cases of Searlet Fever notified, with no deaths; seven of these occurred in two Families (three in one and four in the other), and one family caught it from the other; now if there had been an Isolation Hospital for Infections Diseases, probably there would have been only one or two cases at the most.

There were two eases of Enteric Fever, both in one house.

There were four cases of Diphtheria notified, one in May, the others appearing in Deeember amongst the Sehool Children.

There were five cases of Erysipelas notified, one being fatal.

There was only one death from Epidemic Diarrhœa.

There is no Isolation Hospital for Infectious Diseases.

There is a Smallpox Hospital at Elswiek for use with The Garstang, Preston, and Fylde Unions Disinfection.—There is still no Disinfecting Apparatus. Houses are disinfected—Izal during the illness, and by fumigating with Sulphurous Acid after the case is better.

I am pleased to note that the sanction of your Council for a Disinfector, to be obtained during the next Financial year, has been given. This is a very necessary Apparatus.

There are only two Slaughter Houses in the District, both are Licensed and of modern type, some needed improvements having been made.

The Sanitary Inspector reports that 13 notices have been sent out and 9 complied with; he also has improved the method of removing the Excrement and emptying the Cesspools; this is done regularly and a register kept.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

A Register of Factories and Workshops is kept, there are 19 on the Register.

FACTORIES:—		
Salt Works,	1	
Brickmaking.	1	
Joinery,	1	
		3
WORKSHOPS:—		
Corn Miller, (Wind Mill)	1	
Provender dealers,	2	
Dressmaker,	1	
Bakers and Confectioners,	6	
Bootmakers, &c.,	2	
Joinery.	1	
Blacksmith,	1	
Wheelwright.	1	
Saddlery,	1	
		16

Number of Visits, 40.

No notices were served, and only verbal reminders as to whitewashing being given.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

(*Signed*) WILLIAM HENRY ROBINSON,

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Fleetwood, March 1st, 1905.